Nova Scotia
Minerals Update
Department of Natural Resources, Mineral Resources Branch

Volume 20, no. 1 *Winter 2003*

In This Issue

Conference Highlights the Importance of Mining and Geoscience Research

Mining Matters 2002 Field Trip

Remembering a Caretaker of Londonderry's Past

AGS and Northeast GSA to Hold Joint Meeting

Connecting Teachers with Mineral Resources

From the Mineral Inventory Files

Professional Registration of Geoscientists Is Near

October-December Open Assessment Reports

Nova Scotia Exploration and Development Highlights

The Prospector's Stake

Atlantic Canada Rock Room 2003

Special Note/Dates to Remember

Comments or questions? Please contact:

Doug MacDonald
Editor, *Nova Scotia Minerals Update*
N. S. Department of Natural Resources
Mineral Resources Branch
P.O. Box 698, Halifax
Nova Scotia, Canada B3J 2T9
Phone 902-424-2510
E-mail drmacdon@gov.ns.ca
Web Site: http://www.gov.ns.ca/natr/meb

NOVA SCOTIA
Natural Resources

Printed on paper that contains recycled fibre

Conference Highlights the Importance of Mining and Geoscience Research

What do a stone sculptor, a jazz ensemble, a geological map and a high-wall miner have in common? The answer: Mining Matters for Nova Scotia. This annual conference was held at the Westin Nova Scotian Hotel in Halifax on November 13 and 14, 2002. The main purpose of the event is to convey the importance of mining and geoscience research to Nova Scotians. So, what did the delegates see and hear while at this beautiful old refurbished CN hotel?

Stone sculpting has been a human endeavor for several millennia. Conference delegates had the opportunity to watch internationally recognized stone sculptor Vanessa Pashakarnis create a sculpture from a block of red marble from Cape Breton Island. The rock was donated by MacLeod Resources, which recently commenced preliminary quarrying of red and blue-grey marble at its quarry near River Denys, Cape Breton Island.

As we face a cold and snowy winter season, road safety is prominent in the minds of many people. Salt is used to keep roads ice-free, but where do we procure our road salt? Nova Scotia has two salt mines, an underground operation in Pugwash and a brine operation in Nappan. Most road salt used on Nova Scotia roads comes from the Pugwash mine. Buck Wile, an employee of Canada Salt Company in Pugwash, treated conference attendees to an overview of his company's operation in a presentation entitled "Salt: A Mineral that Really Matters."

Many will concede that there are a few essential examples that relate minerals and our everyday lives, but everyone knows that mining is part of that old economy, right? Wrong! The conference provided several examples of new technologies that are being employed by Nova Scotia's mining industry. Pioneer Coal Limited had a display at the conference highlighting its NovaMiner 2000 high-wall miner. This proprietary

Natural Resources Minister Tim Olive welcomes delegates to the reception at Mining Matters for Nova Scotia 2002.

Panning for gold: many old methods are still relevant and cost-effective today.

technology represents the only machine of its kind in the world capable of extracting coal from surface coal seams with dips up to 28°, and was designed and built here in Nova Scotia.

Another example of technological advances in the mining industry was eloquently detailed in a talk by Kirk Hillman, Fundy Gypsum Company. Mr. Hillman described continuing improvements to Fundy's gypsum load-out facility at Hantsport. Once completed, this facility will be capable of loading approximately 40 000 tonnes of gypsum onto a bulk-carrier within approximately four hours, which is essential to complete a cycle of docking, loading, and sailing in the world-famous tides of the Minas Basin.

Many of us spend time along Nova Scotia's beautiful coastline. Some are lucky enough to own or share a family seaside cottage, or perhaps we have a favourite beach where we like to stroll and swim. Consequently, erosion of the province's coastline is an important issue, and one that often receives media attention. Bob Taylor, a research scientist from Bedford Institute of Oceanography, presented Mining Matters delegates with an entertaining and informative overview of the processes and dynamics of coastal erosion. His talk, entitled "Where's the Beach, eh?" chronicled

Economic Development Minister Cecil Clarke speaks about the interest of his department in mineral development.

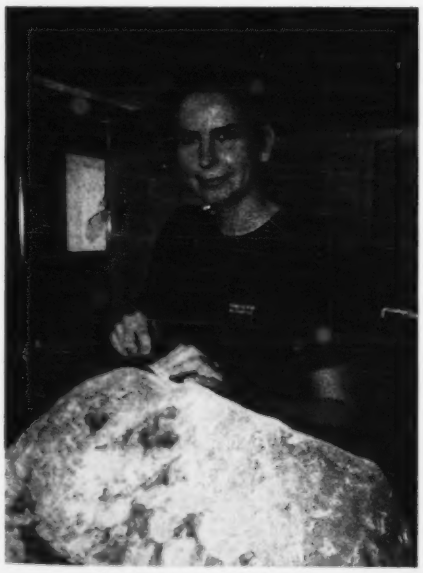
changes to Nova Scotia's coastline using historic air photographs and other data.

Did you know that the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) consumes 3 million tonnes of crushed stone aggregate each year? What is it used for? Concrete, asphalt, road beds, basements and walkways, to name just a few applications. So where does all of this rock come from? Garth Prime, a geologist with DNR, gave a presentation entitled "Aggregate in the Halifax Regional Municipality: Examination of a Resource Facing an Uncertain Future." Garth outlined the challenges that face the municipality in this vital sector.

And now for something completely different. Many readers will recall the media coverage and controversy surrounding the new HRM landfill. After considerable evaluation of various sites, an area near Otter Lake was selected for development. This area has a thick layer of red, clay-rich glacial till overlying the granite bedrock. The till layer is impermeable and provides some of the basic materials needed to construct a modern landfill. On Friday, Nov. 15, approximately 35 people enjoyed a tour of the Otter Lake landfill, and other sites that show the interaction of geoscience and society, as part of the Mining Matters field trip The trip was led by Fred Bonner and Howard Donohoe (see article on p. 3).

This is just a small sample of the diverse topics that were featured at Mining Matters 2002. The Mineral Resources Branch plans to continue this tradition of excellence again next year. Details of Mining Matters 2003 will be given in future editions of the *Nova Scotia Minerals Update*. Hope to see you this fall.

Mike MacDonald



Stone sculptor Vanessa Pashakarnis creates a sculpture from red marble from Cape Breton Island.

Mining Matters 2002 Field Trip

Exploring Geoscience, Land-use Planning, and Mineral Development in the Halifax Regional Municipality

Thursday, 14 November 2002, marked the end of another successful Mining Matters for Nova Scotia conference. Luckily, on the following day I had the opportunity to participate in the Mining Matters Field Trip, the second year that I have taken part in this informative and enjoyable excursion.

The purpose of the field trip was to illustrate geoscience applications for land-use planning, operation of solid waste sites, development and extraction of resources, and site rehabilitation and reclamation. The trip described the geological history of Halifax through the examination of bedrock and surficial deposits, while emphasizing the importance of mineral resources.

The trip included six stops throughout the Halifax Regional Municipality. The first of these was the Bayers Lake Industrial Park, located along Chain Lake Drive. At this stop, participants were introduced to various aspects of Nova Scotia's geological history, including intrusion of the Halifax Pluton into the Meguma Group basement rocks and evidence of glaciation on the present-day bedrock. I found it interesting to consider that the excavation and development of this industrial park was very similar to a large-scale surface mining operation.

The second stop on our journey was the Otter Lake Waste Management Facility in Timberlea. Participants were given a tour of the facility and a description of the processes by which refuse is sorted, stabilized and disposed. It was helpful to see how inert waste is buried in large cells bounded by clay, and it was also enlightening to reflect over how one's own actions can make a difference.

The third stop was the National Gypsum (Canada) Ltd. operation in Carroll's Corner. This is one of the largest surface gypsum mines in the world, and its scale alone is impressive. Geological processes that formed the gypsum deposits were described, mining methods practiced at this site were reviewed, and we learned of reclamation and rehabilitation plans for the future. We were also able to witness a blast at the mine, which was very exciting!

Following lunch, we visited a Maritimes and Northeast Pipeline crossing, south of Antrim. Here, we considered the importance of geoscience in selecting a pipeline route. Factors affecting feasibility and cost were explained, including bedrock type and depth, as well as surficial material.

The fifth stop of the day was at a pilot reclamation project by Halifax C & D Recycling in Antrim. I found this site to be quite interesting as it was formerly a slate pit. It is now being reclaimed with inert construction and demolition material to re-establish vegetation and to remediate acid rock drainage. Work on the south pit is currently being completed; however, reclamation began last summer on the north pit, which has been re-contoured and re-vegetated. It was impressive to see the before-and-after effects of this innovative solution.

The sixth and final stop of the day was Halifax International Airport, where we discussed the containment and treatment of acid rock drainage. Participants were given a tour of the new facility and the operations were explained in detail. It was interesting to see first-hand how the Halifax International Airport Authority is working to address this problem.

As a student, I found the Mining Matters field trip to be extremely educational and worthwhile! I was introduced to areas of geoscience that are not commonly mentioned in the class-room, and was provided the opportunity to directly observe them. The explanations given by field trip leaders Howard Donohoe and Fred Bonner, along with the operators of the sites visited, were well demonstrated and easily understood.

I had a great time and look forward to next year's trip!

Tracy Allen
Co-op Student, Geological Services Division, DNR

Remembering a Caretaker of Londonderry's Past

Trueman Matheson died in December 2002. He was the author of the 1983 book *History of Londonderry, N.S.*, and keeper of the corporate memory of the Londonderry mining district. With his passing, the historical and museum communities of Colchester County and the province have lost a valued member. His book remains the definitive account of the rise and fall of iron mining, smelting, and manufacturing. In addition to writing, Trueman collected artifacts reflective of the local iron and steel works and of local people's daily lives. These he displayed in a privately owned museum, the Londonderry Mines Museum. In June 2002 he spent half a day with the Nova Scotia Prospectors Association guiding their field trip around the former manufacturing area and mining areas. He and his wife Stella graciously invited the field trip participants to have lunch at their home. Knowing Trueman for more than 10 years has given me a wonderful insight into the iron mining operation around Londonderry. Through his diligent research and far-ranging exploration of the mining district, Trueman has been able to bring knowledge and artifacts together in his museum and his book. It was always a pleasure to work with Trueman. I will miss him.

Howard Donohoe with material from Colchester Historical Society

AGS and Northeast GSA to Hold Joint Meeting

The Atlantic Geoscience Society (AGS) traditionally holds its annual conference in mid-February with talks, posters, the annual general meeting and great social interactions. Recently, local members of the Northeastern Section of the Geological Society of America (NE GSA) were approached about holding their annual conference in Canada for the first time ever. This conference usually takes place in March. With the timing of these two conferences, it seemed like a perfect opportunity for both organizations to host a meeting together; thus, in 2001 planning began for the first AGS - NE GSA joint meeting.

The conference will take place in Halifax at the Westin Nova Scotian Hotel from March 27 to 29. The Program Committee, in collaboration with organizers of the symposia and theme sessions, is currently in the process of arranging the program. AGS has always been proud of the fact that its conference has included many local students, and organizers are very pleased that of the more than 400 presentations scheduled, approximately 170 will be given by students, both undergraduate and graduate, and both Canadian and American. Crowds of up to 600 are anticipated.

Five symposia deal with metals in the environment, hydrogeology, continental margins, hydrocarbons, and new developments in the Avalon Terrane. In addition to poster sessions and general sessions, 13 theme sessions are also being offered, with presentations on topics such as structure, metamorphism, education, history of geology, metallogeny, geological processes, different environments, energy resources, and climate change. Five field trips are being planned, contingent on the weather, ranging from tours of facilities (Geological Survey of Canada Atlantic at BIO, collections at the Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History) to granites and the contact area of the South Mountain Batholith, to environments in the Minas Basin and Cretaceous basins in Nova Scotia. Two short courses are also planned, dealing with the uses of benthic foraminifera for environmental applications and modelling of basin evolution. Two workshops are planned: a drill core display and the Roy J. Shlemon mentor program in applied geology.

Geoscientists from government, industry and universities are all involved in this conference. The meeting will be co-chaired by Marcos Zentilli and David Scott of Dalhousie University, and the Program Committee includes Sandra Barr (Acadia), David Piper (NRCan), Martin Gibling (Dalhousie), Matt Salisbury (NRCan) and Mike MacDonald (DNR). Many members of the local geoscience community are also involved in hosting this conference.

The pre-registration deadline is February 14, and registration can be completed on-line at http://www.geosociety.org/sectdiv/northe/03nemtg3.htm. Additional information can also be obtained from this web site. With all the various events, this conference promises to have something of interest to everyone! Be sure to plan to attend.

Linda Ham

Connecting Teachers with Mineral Resources

Each year during the third week in August, the Atlantic Geoscience Society's Education Committee hosts the EdGeo Workshop in Geoscience. This past August, 30 teachers attended the eighth annual workshop, which was held in Digby at the brand new Digby Regional High School. Most of the teachers do not have a science background so it is important to provide opportunities for them to connect with geoscience.

The workshop offers the teachers sessions in relating geoscience to the environment and society, minerals and rocks, geological time, mineral resources, fossils, energy resources and climate change. A half day field trip gives teachers a chance to see and understand the local geology and landforms. The field trip, like so much of the EdGeo Workshop, is designed to provide information while modelling how this might be presented in the classroom, and having the teachers work in small groups to learn.

An important part of the workshop is making the connection with the everyday uses of minerals and rocks, and the implications of their use on the environment and society. Teachers learn about economic minerals and their uses. They hear about the search for minerals and energy resources, and they also play a game about mining. After hearing about exploration for minerals and mining, teachers get to 'mine' chocolate chips from cookies. The game provides an insight into the economics of mining and how 'rule' changes affect the profit [or loss] of the mining venture. Everyone seems to come away with a better appreciation for how mining works, how certain minerals are used, and how policy or legislative changes affect the bottom line.

The EdGeo Workshop Committee, chaired by Jennifer Bates of Natural Resources Canada (GSC Atlantic), is an enthusiastic group that has worked together for some time. The workload is shared by people from GSC Atlantic, the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources, the Nova Scotia Museum, and Dalhousie University. We are all dedicated to helping teachers learn more about geoscience and its connection to the environment and society.

Howard Donohoe

From the Mineral Inventory Files

Coxheath Mountain Pyrophyllite: Economic Possibilities

Several pyrophyllite-bearing sites that occur on Coxheath Mountain near Sydney are currently being examined by DNR geologists Phil Finck and Dan Kontak. Pyrophyllite, in formal terms, is a hydrated aluminium silicate, but to the layman it is one of the large family of clay minerals. Talc is a very similar mineral to pyrophyllite, but whereas talc contains magnesium, pyrophyllite is aluminium-rich. The mineral gets its name from the Greek words for fire and leaf (fire-leaf) since it characteristically exfoliates into a flaky, or leafy, mass as water is driven from the mineral on heating. The main uses of pyrophyllite are as a refractory mineral, a filler for rubber, paints and insecticides, and as a component of ceramics.

Hugh Fletcher of the GSC indicated two "fire-clay" pits, one of which was quarried, on his 1899 geology map of the Coxheath area (Fig. 1). These sites were prospected for their fire-clay potential throughout the early part of the 20th Century and Dominion Steel Company used the material in its Sydney steel works as a flux and to extract contaminants from the iron melt. It wasn't until 1943 that E. W. Greig included this prospect in an evaluation of Nova Scotia's clay and shale deposits and confirmed that the clay mineral present is actually pyrophyllite, with grades up to 80% and of good quality. The northeast area of the mountain is littered with numerous old pits and trenches, many of which expose pyrophyllite (Fig. 1). One small quarry exposes a 40 m zone mineralized with quartz-pyrophyllite.

In December 2002 a closure was put on the property and four trenches totalling 200 m were dug by Industrial Minerals Geologist Phil Finck. The trenching revealed that quartz-pyrophyllite occurs as a gradational alteration of the volcanic country rocks along a northwest-trending fault zone. This fault is, in turn, offset by a series of prominent northeast-trending faults. Dan Kontak determined that a sample from this zone consisted of 50% pyrophyllite with the remainder being quartz and a lesser amount of gibbsite (pure aluminum hydroxide). A further 15 samples have been collected and are currently undergoing major and trace element analyses. All of this information will be released as an Open File Report when the closure is removed this spring.

The likely source of hydrothermal fluids that gave rise to the alteration isn't far away. Coxheath Mountain is a small highland massif of late Precambrian plutonic and volcanic rocks, surrounded by a lowland of softer Carboniferous sedimentary rocks. The volcanic and plutonic rocks of Coxheath Mountain are genetically related. The volcanic rocks consist of a mix of andesite, dacite and volcaniclastic units like tuff. The pluton intruding these volcanics is zoned from very mafic gabbro and diorite, to more evolved phases like monzonite, muscovite granite, and felsite. The volcanic and plutonic rocks were likely derived from the same parental magma deep below the mountain.

There is abundant information indicating that the Coxheath Pluton was a "juicy beast" indeed. Occurrences of Cu, Mo and Au abound in the pluton and immediately adjacent volcanic rocks. One such site, the Coxheath Cu-Au deposit, was mined sporadically after its discovery in 1875. Evidence of associated hydrothermal alteration is also abundant. Geologist Greg Lynch of the GSC concluded that the entire volcano-plutonic complex is a typical Cu-Mo-Au porphyry system, consisting of higher temperature potassic alteration within the pluton, zoned outward to progressively lower temperature propylitic, phyllic and argillic alteration zones in the pluton and surrounding volcanic rocks. The argillic alteration is characterized by kaolinite, pyrophyllite and chalcedony, and is likely the source of the quartz-pyrophyllite zone being examined.

George O'Reilly

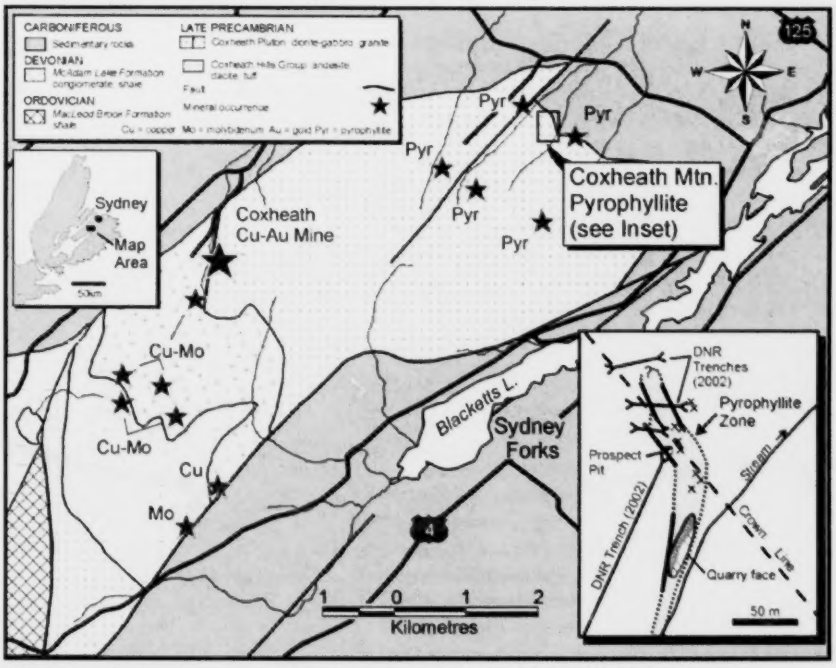


***Figure 1**. Geology map and mineral occurrences in the Coxheath Mountain area.*

Professional Registration of Geoscientists Is Near

The *Geoscience Profession Act* has received royal assent in the Nova Scotia legislature (see *Nova Scotia Minerals Update*, vol. 19, no. 3). By-laws regulating practice as a professional geoscientist have been approved by the membership of the Association of Professional Geoscientists of Nova Scotia (APGNS) and are now with the Nova Scotia Department of Justice. These by-laws must be approved by Justice, then Treasury and Policy Board, before going to Cabinet. APGNS hopes that the by-laws will be considered and approved by Cabinet sometime in early 2003. When approval has been granted, the Governor in Council will proclaim the act and by-laws, and they will be law. After proclamation of the act and by-laws, anyone practicing geoscience in the province must be registered as a professional geoscientist.

As a professional body governed by legislation, APGNS must have standards for membership. The association follows guidelines established by the Standards Board of the Canadian Council of Professional Geoscientists. These guidelines provide the framework for APGNS's admission policy. The association looks for five attributes: (1) knowledge in geoscience, which is generally fulfilled by a B. Sc. (Honours) Geology degree from a Canadian university, (2) geoscience work experience (48 months minimum), (3) appropriate character and professional references, (4) absence of criminal activity and/or disciplinary actions by professional bodies, and (5) successful completion of a professional practice examination.

An application for membership in APGNS currently costs $95 ($50 dues, $25 assessment fee, and $20 stamp fee). Processing of applications takes 2 to 6 months, depending on the time needed to contact references. When the act is proclaimed, dues and fees will rise to the same level (approximately $250) as the engineers' fees for the Association of Professional Engineers of Nova Scotia (APENS).

The advantages of professional registration include (1) the legal right to call oneself a "professional geoscientist," (2) inter-provincial mobility of employment as a professional, (3) the ability to meet one of the major requirements for "Qualified Person" status and to legally sign documents for any of the securities commissions and/or stock exchanges in Canada, and (4) the ability to accept work in Australia, parts of the United States, and much of Europe as a professional geoscientist.

Anyone interested in registering as a professional geoscientist may visit the association's web site (http://www.apgns.ns.ca) and download the membership application, or call me (902-422-3486) for an application.

Howard Donohoe

October-December Open Assessment Reports

Report Number	Claim Ref. Map	Licensee
AR ME 1998-125	11E/03B, C	Geostorage Associates Partnership
AR ME 2000-072	11F/14C	Glencoe Resources Incorporated
AR ME 2000-073	11E/05A	Titanium Corporation of Canada Limited
	11E/06B	
AR ME 2000-076	21A/07B	Hooper, J
AR ME 2000-077	11E/03A	Collier, J E
AR ME 2000-079	21A/02D	Allen, L J
AR ME 2000-081	11E/03B	Pasminco Resources Canada Company
AR ME 2000-082	11E/03A	Pasminco Resources Canada Company
AR ME 2000-083	11E/03B	Pasminco Resources Canada Company
AR ME 2000-084	11E/01A	Baillie, T R
AR ME 2000-085	11E/01A	Ross, J I
AR ME 2000-086	11E/01A	Ross, J I
AR ME 2000-087	11D/13A	Fisher, E
AR ME 2000-088	11E/01A	Baillie, T R
AR ME 2000-089	11F/15A	MacDonald, R H; McKay, G A
AR ME 2000-090	11F/04D	McAllister, K
AR ME 2001-036	21H/02D	C2C Zeolite Corporation
AR ME 2001-039	11F/16D	Keddy, D B
AR ME 2001-051	11F/06C	Van Dommelen, R
AR ME 2001-052	21H/02B	Booth, I
AR ME 2001-056	11E/02D	Cramm, D
AR ME 2001-057	21H/02D	C2C Zeolite Corporation
AR ME 2001-060	21A/04A, D	Hudgins, A D

Jeff Poole and Susan Saunders

Nova Scotia Exploration and Development Highlights

Mineral exploration expenditures in Nova Scotia have declined steadily for several years, from approximately $6.9 million in 1996 to a forecast of $2.0 million for 2002. This trend mirrors overall expenditure patterns for Canada by both junior and senior mineral exploration companies. Exploration has focused on industrial mineral commodities, including titanium-bearing heavy mineral sands, kaolin, silica sand, barite, quartz, gypsum, aggregate, limestone and dolomite, in addition to base metal and precious metal commodities.

At the end of 2001, the total area under exploration licence in Nova Scotia, including new and re-issued claims and special licences, was 130 970 hectares (8,030 claims), down approximately 17% from 157 000 hectares (9,624 claims) under licence in 2000. This is the smallest area under licence in the past ten years, down substantially from the recent high of more than 500 000 hectares (34,265 claims) in 1996. In 2002, renewed interest in the gold potential of the Meguma Zone of southwestern Nova Scotia led to a significant increase in the area under licence of 200 860 hectares (12,315 claims). This increase in claim staking may signify an increase in future gold exploration for southern Nova Scotia.

Exploration drilling in 2001 totalled approximately 6 000 metres, whereas the forecast for 2002 is 4 000 metres. Both estimates are significantly lower than the recent maximum of 34 265 metres drilled in 1996. Drilling activity in 2001 and 2002 was chiefly related to exploration for industrial minerals, gold and base metal commodities.

New Mines

Georgia Pacific Corp. commenced mining activities at its Melford surface gypsum mine in south-central Cape Breton Island in the fall of 2002. The deposit has a combined proven and probable mineable reserve of 35 million tonnes of gypsum.

MacLeod Resources Limited has received all of the required permits and approvals for the Kennedys Big Brook marble quarry in central Cape Breton Island. The company has completed site preparation, including the construction of a processing facility, and has extracted test blocks of red and blue-grey marble for processing and market studies.

Advanced Exploration and Development-stage Projects

Black Bull Resources Inc. received the Environmental Assessment approval for its White Rock Quartz Project on September 6, 2002. The company plans to begin development of a quartz extraction and processing operation at its site near Yarmouth, with production expected to commence in early 2003 once additional required permits have been issued. The company has defined a mineral resource of 16 million tonnes of quartz over a strike length of 1.6 km.

Titanium Corporation Inc. continues to evaluate its titanium-bearing heavy mineral sands project in the Shubenacadie River. In February 2002 the company announced plans to construct a small pilot testing plant in partnership with the Minerals Engineering Centre at Dalhousie University. Recent exploration activities include a 60-hole drilling project and the collection of a 16 tonne bulk sample for test processing.

Exploration Projects

There has been a renewed interest in the gold deposits of southern Nova Scotia in recent months. In July 2002 Aurogin Resources and Moose River Resources announced finalization of their agreement for the Touquoy open pit, sediment-hosted gold deposit in July 2002. On October 16, 2002, Aurogin released the results of its due diligence work on the Moose River Gold Project, including drilling, geochemistry and metallurgical testing. Highlights from the company's drilling included: 2.0 g/t Au over a 77.2 m interval in the Main Zone, 1.1 g/t Au over a 13.6 m interval in the East Zone and 3.3 g/t Au over 10.8 m in an area between these two zones. Aurogin noted that known resources stand at 3.8 million tonnes indicated resources at 2.22 g/t Au (274,000 oz.) and 1.9 million tonnes inferred resources at 2.15 g/t Au (131,000 oz.).

On May 6, 2002, Tempus Corporation announced plans to acquire six gold properties (Forest Hill, Beaver Dam, Cameron Dam, Killag, Upper Seal Harbour and Ragged Falls) from Votix Corporation Limited and Portree Inc., subject to due diligence review by Tempus.

Coventry Charter Corporation announced in May 2002 that it had signed a letter of intent to acquire the assets of Monster Copper Resources Ltd., including 1,282 claims bounding the Cobequid-Chedabucto Fault Zone. Coventry plans to explore for Fe-oxide Cu-Au style deposits.

Several companies continue to evaluate the viability of salt dome structures for potential underground gas storage, in light of offshore gas exploration, development and production in Nova Scotia. These interests have focused on structures near the Maritimes and Northeast Ltd. pipeline that extends from Goldboro on the Atlantic coast through central and northern Nova Scotia to New Brunswick and New England. On February 28, 2002, Statia Terminals Canada Incorporated was purchased by Kaneb Pipe Line Partners. Kaneb is the third largest independent liquids terminal operator in the United States. Statia continues to evaluate the salt deposit in Port Richmond. Other companies evaluating geostorage in salt deposits include Intragaz Energy Limited Partnership, which is exploring in the McIntyre Lake and Kingsville areas, and Geostorage Associates, which is exploring near Stewiacke.

Mike MacDonald

The Prospector's Stake

In March this year, the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) will honour a Nova Scotia prospector with a distinguished service award. He has spent most of his professional life in the Maritimes and has done an extensive amount of prospecting in Nova Scotia, both alone and with associates. He brings together three main attributes that all successful prospectors have: keen observation skills, eternal optimism, and a commitment to learning. These abilities have paid off in successful searches for strontium, lead and zinc, and tin. Each discovery has resulted in mine development: Lake Enon, Gays River and East Kemptville.

The prospector is Avard Hudgins, and as most of you know, he is the "Dean" of Nova Scotia prospectors. Many people who attended the DNR-sponsored prospecting courses remember his invigorating talks in the last class. Avard always challenged the students to think differently and creatively and, therefore, to make opportunities for new discoveries. He would maintain that optimism and keen observational skills are always necessary, but that the great breakthroughs come with a new idea. Avard generated many ideas because he talked about his ideas, read about other discoveries, and re-examined his information and properties with his mind open to new ideas. Sometimes he would simply have a hunch, but hunches are the result of experience, observation, discussion, knowledge and optimism. They are not unfocused dreams.

Avard Hudgins has combined the traditional skills of a prospector with an emphasis on continual learning. That's why he has been successful. Many members of the Nova Scotia Prospectors Association have the same characteristics as Avard. I think it is only a matter of time before we see more prospectors distinguishing themselves as Avard has done.

Howard Donohoe

Atlantic Canada Rock Room 2003

Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada
Metro Toronto Convention Centre
March 9-12, 2003

The Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources is proud to continue its commitment to the Atlantic Canada Rock Room, a long-standing tradition at the PDAC convention. The rock room is a unique example of cooperation among government and industry groups from Newfoundland, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. The room provides an excellent opportunity for Nova Scotia prospectors and explorationists to promote their mineral properties to a wide national and international audience.

There are only a few spaces available in the Nova Scotia portion of the Atlantic Canada Rock Room. If you have a property and want to participate, please contact:
Mike MacDonald
Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 698, Halifax
Nova Scotia
B3J 2T9
Phone: (902) 424-2523
Fax: (902) 424-7735
Email: mamacdon@gov.ns.ca

Special Note

TGI Ends, but John MacNeil Endures
Geologist/GIS Specialist John MacNeil joined the Mineral Resources Branch in November 2000 to work on the federal-provincial Targeted Geoscience Initiative (TGI) project in south-central Cape Breton Island (see vol. 18, no. 1). The project comes to an end in March, and on March 4 John will take on a new position with DNR as GIS Coordinator for the Regional Services Branch in Bridgewater. John will work with the department's Integrated Resource Management team for Western Nova Scotia.

Dates to Remember

March 9-12, 2003
Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC), International Convention and Trade Show, Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Toronto, Ontario. For more information contact the PDAC (phone 416-362-1969, fax 416-362-0101) or visit the web site: info@pdac.ca.

March 27-29, 2003
Joint meeting of the Northeastern Section of the Geological Society of America and the Atlantic Geoscience Society, Westin Nova Scotian Hotel, Halifax, Nova Scotia (see article p. 4). For more information please visit the web site: http://www.geosociety.org/sectdiv/northe/03nemtg3.htm.

May 25-28, 2003
Geological Association of Canada-Mineralogical Association of Canada-Society of Economic Geologists Joint Meeting, Sheraton Wall Centre, Vancouver, British Columbia. For more information contact the conference organizers by telephone (604-681-5226) fax (604-681-2503) or e-mail (Vancouver2003@nrcan.gc.ca), or visit the web site: www.Vancouver2003.com.